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[CLICK HERE FOR DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED JANUARY 25, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED JANUARY 31, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED MARCH 21, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED APRIL 24, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED MAY 31, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED JUNE 25, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED JUNE 29, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED SEPTEMBER 18, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED OCTOBER 31, 2012](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT DATED JANUARY 3, 2013](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED FEBRUARY 11, 2013](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATE JUNE 11, 2013](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED AUGUST 30, 2013](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE'S REPORT DATED MAY 13, 2014 \(2ND AND 3RD QUARTERS 2013\)](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICE'S REPORT DATED MAY 30, 2014 \(1ST QUARTER 2014\)](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AN DFAMILY SERVICES' REPORT DATED AUGUST 29, 2014 \(2ND QUARTER 2014\)](#)



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Interim Director

**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

January 25, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

Board of Supervisors
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Fifth District

From: Philip L. Browning, Interim Director

**THIRTY DAY (30) REPORT REGARDING THE DECEMBER 20, 2011 MOTION ON FOSTER
YOUTH FOOD SECURITY PLAN**

On December 20, 2011, based on the recommendation by Fifth District Supervisor Michael Antonovich, the Board directed the Chief Executive Officer, Interim Director of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Chief Probation Officer, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

Department representatives from the CEO, DCFS, Department of Public Social Services and Probation, along with key community stakeholders, convened a stakeholders committee meeting on January 11, 2012, to begin discussions and a brainstorming session to meet the motion directives introduced by the Fifth District Board Office. The stakeholder's membership included representatives from children's advocates groups (Public Counsel and Alliance for Children's Rights, who are co-leads for the committee); California Grocers Association, California Food Policy Advocates; California Youth Connection (also a co-lead); contracted providers; and the faith-community.

The committee will meet on an ongoing basis and engage other key community partners to develop a strategy that will meet all of the Fifth District's directives.

The next committee meeting will be held on February 11, 2012, in conjunction with the Youth Leadership Council of the California Youth Connection in order for foster youth to provide input that will be incorporated into the plan and final resource guide product. It is expected that the committee will provide the requested comprehensive plan to your Board in the April 2012 quarterly report.

Finally, it should be noted that the Second District's portion of the Foster Youth Security Plan, directing the Chief Executive Officer, the Acting Director of the Department of Public Social Services and the Interim Director of the Department of Children and Family Services to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, is being led by Deputy Chief Executive Officer Antonia Jimenez.

If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:RS:

HK: lj

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

January 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name and title.

Board of Supervisors
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Fifth District

EXTENSION REQUEST ON DECEMBER 13, 2011 BOARD MOTION – ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, your Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. This plan should be developed with input from representatives of the affected foster youth community and should suggest pathways to improve enrollment in and retention of other critical government-funded programs, including but not limited to Medi-Cal; and report back in writing in 30 days on the plan and to quarterly report back on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

A work group consisting of CEO, DPSS, DCFS, and Probation staff has convened to develop a plan to ensure timely and successful application to CalFresh and other programs, identify pathways to improved enrollment and retention, and develop a standard report on the County's improved rates of enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

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Each Supervisor
January 31, 2012
Page 2

In assessing the work required to complete these tasks, it has been determined that additional time is needed. Therefore, we request an extension to March 30, 2012 to complete this effort.

It should be noted that the amendment by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich directing the CEO, Interim Director of DCFS, and the Chief Probation Officer to develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth is being led on a separate track by Harvey Kawasaki, Division Chief, Youth Development Services, DCFS.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Antonia Jimenez at (213) 974-7365 or via e-mail at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:AJ:DS
SMF:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Children and Family Services
Probation
Public Social Services

CalFresh Extension Request.bm

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

March 21, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name of the Chief Executive Officer.

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A work group consisting of CEO, DPSS, DCFS, Probation staff and community advocates was convened to develop a plan to ensure timely and successful application to CalFresh and other programs, identify pathways to improved enrollment and retention, and develop a standard report on the County's improved rates of enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

The workgroup has: conducted an analysis of the total number of foster youth who are currently receiving CalFresh and other services; documented the youth aging-out process for both DCFS and Probation; identifying major challenges; and conducted the first workgroup meeting to identify recommendations. Although we have made significant progress to complete the tasks identified in the motion, it has been

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Each Supervisor
March 21, 2012
Page 2

determined that additional time is needed to successfully complete our analysis. Therefore, we request an extension to April, 30, 2012 to complete this effort.

It should be noted that the amendment by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich directing the CEO, Interim Director of DCFS, and the Chief Probation Officer to develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth, is being led on a separate track by Harvey Kawasaki, Division Chief, Youth Development Services, DCFS.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Antonia Jiménez at (213) 974-7365 or via e-mail at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:BC:AJ
DS:MM:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Children and Family Services
Probation
Public Social Services

CalFresh Motion Extension Request - 03-2012



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

April 24, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

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A work group consisting of CEO, DPSS, DCFS, and Probation staff was convened to develop a plan to ensure timely and successful application to CalFresh and other programs, identify pathways to improved enrollment and retention, and develop a standard report on the County's improved rates of enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

The workgroup has: conducted an analysis of the total number of foster youth who are currently receiving CalFresh and other services; documented the youth aging-out process for both DCFS and Probation; identified major challenges; and conducted the second workgroup meeting to identify recommendations. We are finalizing our recommendations to ensure that complete and timely CalFresh applications are successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth. We have completed the tasks

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April 24, 2012
Page 2

identified in the motion; however, it has been determined that additional time is needed to complete our response to the Board. Therefore, we request an extension to May 31, 2012 to complete this effort.

It should be noted that the amendment by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich directing the CEO, Interim Director of DCFS, and the Chief Probation Officer to develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth, is being led on a separate track by Harvey Kawasaki, Division Chief, Youth Development Services, DCFS.

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MM:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Children and Family Services
Probation
Public Social Services



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WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

May 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

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The workgroup has: conducted an analysis of the total number of foster youth who are currently receiving CalFresh and other services; documented the youth aging-out process for both DCFS and Probation; identified major challenges; and conducted the second workgroup meeting to identify recommendations. We have also finalized our recommendations to ensure that complete and timely CalFresh applications are

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May 31, 2012
Page 2

successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth and are working with the Departments on an implementation timeline. Although we have completed the tasks identified in the motion, it has been determined that additional time is needed to finalize our response to the Board. Therefore, we request an extension to June 30, 2012, to complete this effort.

It should be noted that the amendment by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich directing the CEO, Interim Director of DCFS, and the Chief Probation Officer to develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth, is being led on a separate track by Harvey Kawasaki, Division Chief, Youth Development Services, DCFS.

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CalFresh Motion Extension Request – 05-2012.bm



County of Los Angeles
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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Fifth District

June 25, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T. Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

**RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO AGE OUT OF
FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and the Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO and Interim Directors of DPSS and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

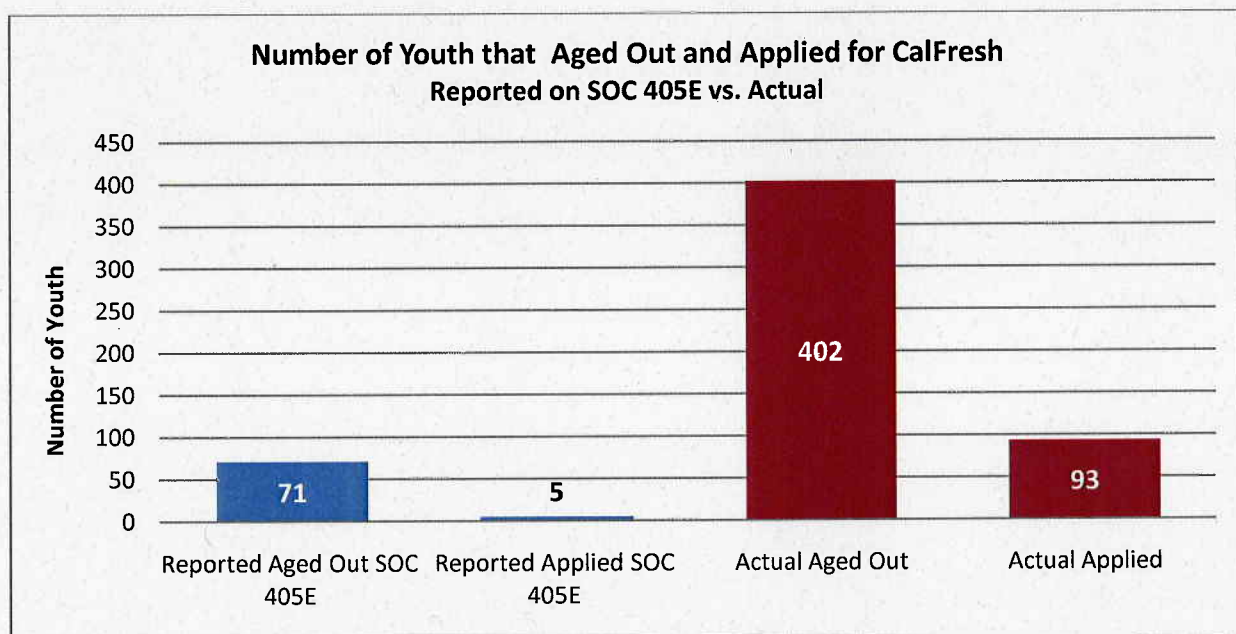
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In response to the motion by Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, a Work Group was established consisting of Board Deputies, CEO, DPSS, DCFS, Probation Staff, as well as foster youth community advocates. The Work Group commenced by reviewing the State of California's Department of Social Services quarterly SOC 405E report (July to September, 2011), which stated that out of 71 youth who aged out during this quarter, only 5 or 7% applied for CalFresh.

The DCFS and Probation staff indicated that these numbers appeared to be lower than expected. We conducted a data match between DCFS/Probation and DPSS to validate the information on the SOC 405E report. Our analysis for the same time period (July through Sept. 2011) indicated that a total of 402 youth aged out during this quarter and 93 or 23% applied for CalFresh benefits.



While these numbers are still not adequate, the County needs to make a concerted effort to improve the total number of aging out youth applying for CalFresh. We can attribute the discrepancy in the data to:

1. Lack of Timely and Accurate Reporting

DCFS Children's Social Workers (CSW) is required to complete the Exit Outcomes for Youth Aging Out of Foster Care Form (#5204A) at the time the youth ages out. However, due to competing priorities, this information has not been entered in a timely manner. DCFS will work with the CSWs to ensure timely and accurate reporting.

2. Communication with Youth Once They Have Aged Out

Youth receive the paper CalFresh application shortly before they are expected to age out. However, once the youth ages out, DCFS does not have a mechanism to track which youth actually applied for and received CalFresh benefits.

DCFS and Probation will work with DPSS to develop standard quarterly reports which will track the total number of youth applying for CalFresh compared to the total the number of youth aging out. This should help improve the numbers currently being reported to the State.

In addition, we conducted a comprehensive analysis of the foster youth who aged out from 2008 through 2012. Of the 5,472 youth who aged out from 2008 through 2012, 4,182 applied for benefits with DPSS, this represent 76%. The following graphs depict:

1. The number of applications received from aging out youth and the programs for which they applied.
2. The disposition of the applications as of February 2012; and,
3. The length of time between the date the youth aged out and the date the youth submitted an application for benefits.

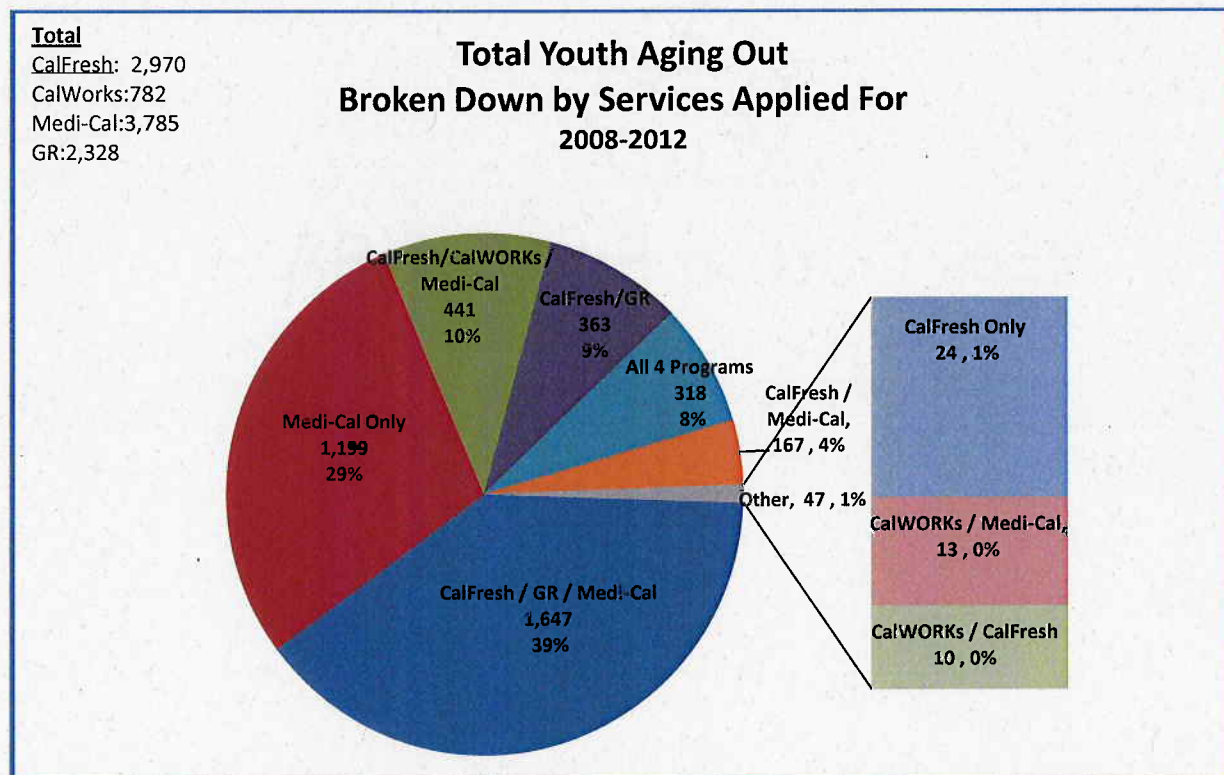
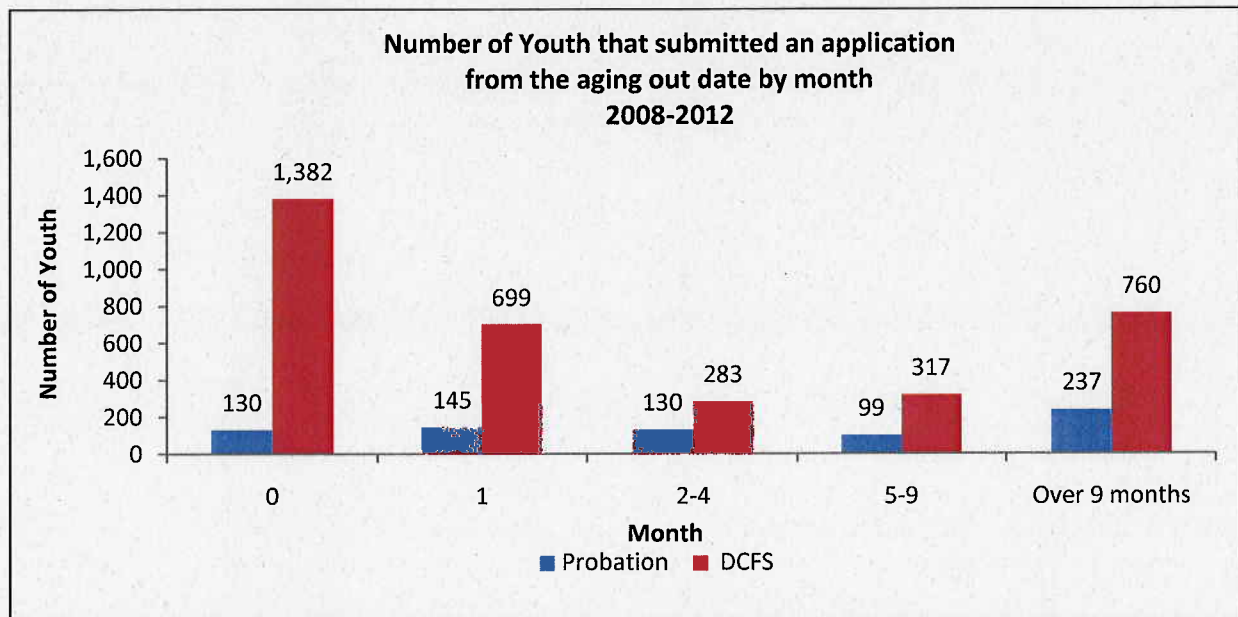


Table 1. Number and disposition of applications received from foster youth who aged out from 2008-2012.

| Program | Approved | Terminated | Denied | Pending |
|----------------|----------|------------|--------|---------|
| CalFresh | 1,158 | 1,159 | 583 | 70 |
| Medi-Cal | 1,485 | 1,830 | 372 | 98 |
| General Relief | 330 | 944 | 930 | 124 |
| CalWORKs | 392 | 224 | 144 | 22 |

* Numbers are duplicated as one youth can apply for multiple programs



It is also important to note that this data will be used to develop the quarterly standard reports (Recommendation 1) which will capture data for CalFresh as well as other DPSS programs that aging out foster youth may be eligible to apply for. The data reflected in the reports will be used for both the State's SOC 405E and the quarterly report to the Board on the improved success rates of enrolling aging out foster youth in CalFresh and other DPSS programs.

Although we have determined that the actual percentage of youth who applied for CalFresh from July 2011 to September 2011 was 23%, a focus is needed to improve the overall business process and ensure that more youth who are eligible for these programs apply. We documented the "end-to-end" aging-out process for both DCFS and Probation (Attachment A) to identify barriers and process improvement areas. Below are the major focus areas, recommendations to address those areas, and a timeline to implement the recommendations.

Recommendations:

1. Once the youth ages out or jurisdiction is terminated, their continued involvement with DCFS and Probation is strictly voluntary. Youth are not obligated to report back to DCFS and/or Probation to notify them if they have applied or are receiving CalFresh or other benefits. Often times, when youth age out they do not want to be connected with DCFS or Probation.

Starting July 16, 2012, and quarterly thereafter, DCFS and Probation will work with DPSS to prepare standard quarterly reports to track the total number of youth aging out and to determine whether they are receiving benefits. The process for validating the data prior to reporting it to the State is as follows:

- On the first week preceding the end of the quarter, DCFS will provide DPSS a comprehensive list of both DCFS and Probation youth who aged out during the quarter.
 - The following week, DPSS will perform a data match to identify the youth who have submitted an application for CalFresh and other programs. The report will also reflect the disposition of the application and the reason(s) if denied or terminated. DPSS will then submit the report to DCFS. These reports will be utilized to ensure accurate reporting to the State for the quarterly SOC 405E, as well as the quarterly report back to the Board on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.
2. DCFS has implemented policies (*Youth Development Transitional Independent Living Planning (0080-505.10)*; *Youth Development Transitioning To Independence (0100-535.60)*; and, *90-Day Transition Planning Conference (0100-535.70)*) to ensure that the CalFresh benefit application is completed before the youth ages out. However, the department indicates that they do not have the resources to dedicate staff to assist youth with completing the application.
 - By August 1, 2012, DCFS will complete the review of existing policies and procedures to update the instructions to staff. Also, Probation will amend the current MDT/Practice Model policy and procedures to include the review and completion of the CalFresh application prior to youth aging out.
 - DCFS and Probation will work with DPSS to identify DPSS staff who will be assigned to specific DCFS and Probation Regional Offices as part of a pilot program to better assist youth in completing the applications.

- It should be noted that in the initial stages of the pilot program, the DPSS staff will visit each pilot office once a week. Additional days may be required depending on the need of each pilot office.
 - DCFS and Probation have identified the following five sites to implement the pilot program: DCFS – Vermont Corridor, Water Ridge, Glendora, and South County Probation – Van Nuys
 - By July 9, 2012, DCFS, Probation, and DPSS will develop and finalize parameters of the pilot program.
 - By July 16, 2012, DCFS, Probation, and DPSS will develop tools to track the performance outcomes of the pilot program.
 - By July 23, 2012, DCFS, Probation, and DPSS will provide training to the Eligibility Workers (EWs) on the procedures of the pilot program.
 - By August 1, 2012, DCFS and Probation will fully implement the six month pilot program. Also, Pilot program outcomes will be collected and reviewed on a monthly basis to determine the success of the pilot.
3. The CalFresh regulations and application process are complex making it difficult for a CSW or Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) to provide consistent and accurate information to youth on available benefits and program eligibility requirements. Also, the youth have a difficult time completing the application.
- DCFS, Probation and DPSS to implement a process where the youth can complete the application (either online or hard copy) and County staff will work to ensure that the application is processed, once the youth ages out. Since federal law prohibits processing the application prior to youth aging out (with the exception of youth in Supervised Independent Living Placement (SILP)), the process should also identify a way in which the completed application can be held and processed until after the youth has aged out.
 - Provide youth with the opportunity to complete the application on-line with the assistance of a CSW or DPO, understanding the application will not be submitted until after the youth has aged out.
 - By July 16, 2012, DPSS will develop a simple informational guide that can be given to CSWs and DPOs so that they can provide accurate and timely information to the youth on available programs.
 - By July 16, 2012, DPSS will also provide training materials and information to the (EW) so that they understand how to effectively work with foster care youth who are aging out of the system. These materials will also remind staff of the options to approve applications for foster youth without photo identification.
 - By November 30, 2012, DPSS will provide a report to CEO indicating the number of denied applications by reason from youth ages 18-21.

- By August 1, 2012, DPSS will offer three half days of training for DCFS and Probation staff.

To ensure successful implementation of the various components, the team developed the following project timeline with clear measurable deliverables.

| Task | Dept. | Due Date |
|--|-------------------------|----------|
| Pilot Program | | |
| 1. Develop and finalize parameters | DCFS, DPSS Probation | 7/9/12 |
| 2. Develop tools to track performance outcomes | DCFS, DPSS Probation | 7/16/12 |
| 3. Provide training to the EWs on the procedures | DCFS, DPSS Probation | 7/23/12 |
| 4. Implement the pilot program and begin tracking outcomes | DCFS Probation | 8/1/12 |
| Training and Materials | | |
| 1. Develop information guide for CSWs and DPOs | DPSS | 7/16/12 |
| 2. Develop training materials for EWs | DCFS, DPSS Probation | 7/16/12 |
| 3. Begin three half day trainings for DCFS and Probation staff | DPSS | 8/1/12 |
| Reporting | | |
| 1. Prepare standard quarterly | DCFS, DPSS | 7/16/12 |
| 2. Prepare report identifying the number of denied applications by reason for youth ages 18-21 | DPSS | 11/30/12 |

It should be noted that youth participating in the SILP Program will now be eligible to apply for CalFresh benefits. It is intended to provide non-minor dependents, who are developmentally ready to live independently, with the opportunity for highly independent living experience while receiving financial support and the support of a CSW and DPO. DCFS, Probation and DPSS are determining what policy and procedure changes need to be made in order to address SILP participants applying for CalFresh.

Each Supervisor
June 25, 2012
Page 8

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Antonia Jiménez at (213) 974-7365, or via email at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:AJ:
DS:MM:ljp

Attachments: (2)

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Alliance for Children's Rights
California Food Policy Advocate
California Grocers Association
California Youth Connection
Children and Family Services
Commission for Children and Families
Hunger Action Los Angeles
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
Probation
Project Impact
Public Counsel
Public Social Services
211LA County

N:\Board Memo's-Response to Ensuring Food Security For Youth

DCFS and Probation – Current Youth Aging Out of the System

| | Department | Description |
|---|----------------|---|
| 1 | Probation | Court Ordered Placement Occurs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Deputy Probation Officer (DPO) conducts the Initial Engagement Conference (phase 1 of 4) of the Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) Aftercare Action Plan; collaborating with a Group Home Caseworker (GHC) to establish an initial case plan and treatment goals agreed upon by the DPO, GHC, the Youth, and the family. b. DPO conducts the Mid-Term Review (phase 2 of 4) no later than 90 days from placement to assess the Youth's progress related to the case plan and treatment goals. Adjustments to the plans and goals are made to meet the needs of the Youth. |
| 2 | DCFS/Probation | Youth Ages 14 and 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. CSW/DPO completes and submits initial Transitional Independent Living Plan and Agreement (TILP) to the ILP coordinator. The TILP identifies goals that the youth agrees to achieve over the next 6 months such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Seek employment</i> – Youth participates in resume writing, vocational and career assessment, and job placement program. • <i>Education</i> – Youth participates in academic counseling and tutoring. Youth also agrees to work towards obtaining a high school diploma or GED. • <i>Financial Responsibility</i> – Youth will participate in budgeting and financial management training. Youth will also learn to open and maintain a checking account. b. Educational Assessment is done when educational challenges are identified. This assessment addresses less severe learning deficits such as problems with arithmetic and reading. c. Tutoring Services (as needed) |
| 3 | DCFS/Probation | Youth Ages 16 Up To Emancipation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CSW/DPO conduct Ansell-Casey Life Skills Assessment which is a series of comprehensive online assessments, learning plans, and learning resources geared to help engage foster care youth and gain necessary life skills needed to exit care by addressing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ <i>Career Planning</i> TBD ➤ <i>Communication</i> – Youth's ability to engage with others, address problems, or deals with feelings. ➤ <i>Daily Living</i> – Youth's ability to perform daily functions such as washing, cleaning, grocery shopping, etc. ➤ <i>Home Life</i> TBD ➤ <i>Housing and Money Management</i> – Youth's ability to complete rental agreements, obtain car insurance, establish and maintain good credit, etc. ➤ <i>Self Care</i> – Youth's decision making regarding pregnancy prevention, avoiding STDs, avoiding drug or alcohol use, etc. ➤ <i>Social Relationships</i> – Youth's ability to deal with anger and consequences. ➤ <i>Work Life</i> - TBD ➤ <i>Work and Study Skills</i> – Youth's ability and knowledge of test preparation, presentations, library, etc. • Youth are able to attend 10 session ILP classes focusing on Life Skills Training (LST). Classes are provided by three (3) Youth Development Services (YDS) contractors. • CSW/DPO completes TILP every 6 months to re-evaluate the goals of the Youth. |

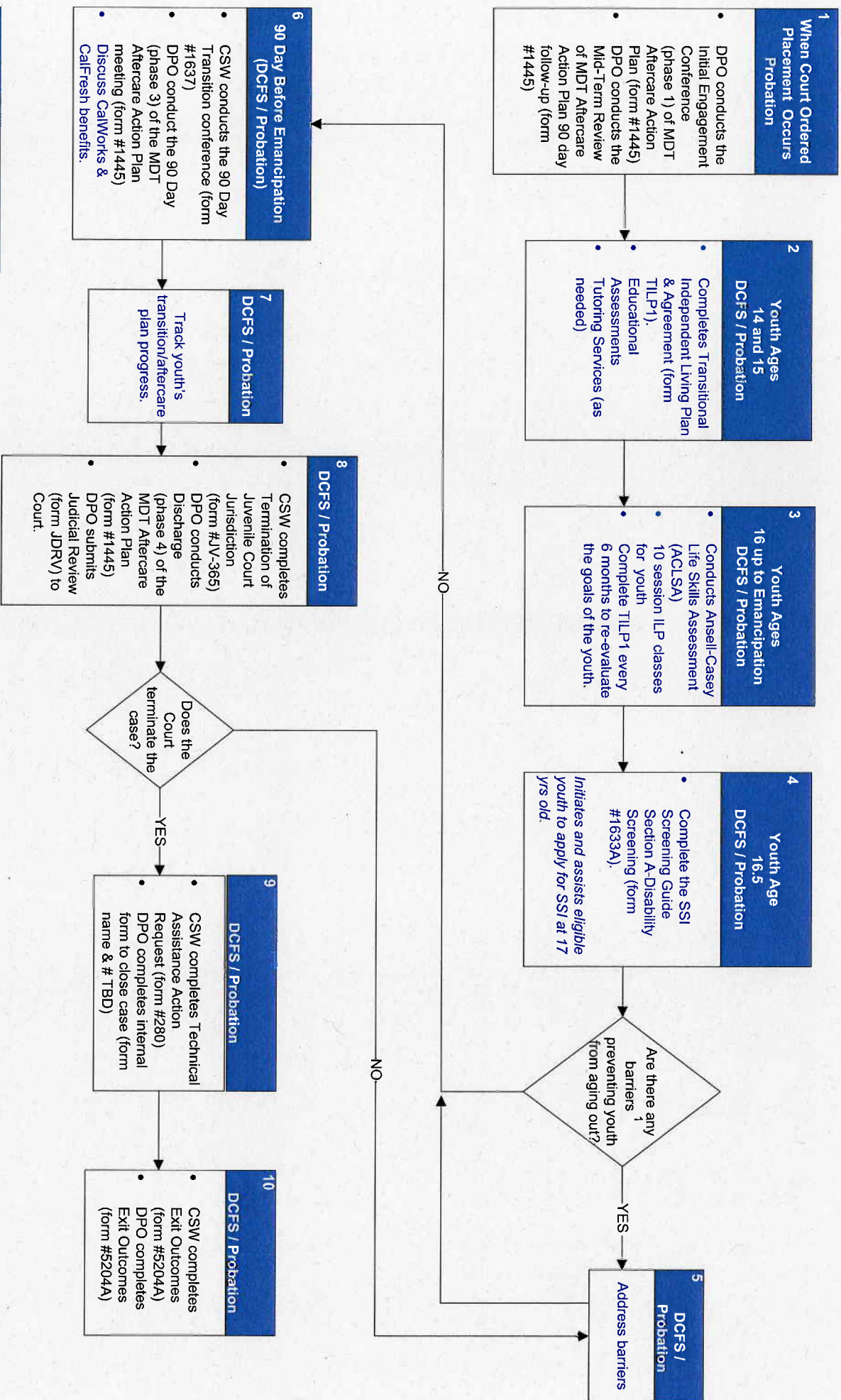
DCFS and Probation – Current Youth Aging Out of the System

| | Department | Description |
|---|----------------|--|
| 4 | DCFS/Probation | <p>Youth Age 16.5</p> <p>a. CSW/DPO completes the SSI Screening Guide Section A - Disability Screening form to determine eligibility requirements such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Disability where an individual is unable to do any substantial, gainful activity because of a mental or physical impairment that can be expected to last for a continuous period of at least 12 months or that will result in death. Resource Limits cannot exceed \$2,000 for an individual or \$3,000 for a couple. <p>b. CSW/DPO initiates and assists eligible Youth to apply for SSI at 17 years of age.</p> |
| 5 | DCFS/Probation | <p>Are There Any Barriers to Aging Out? YES</p> <p>a. CSW/DPO address barriers such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Still in high school Unstable housing Unemployed No long term connection with an adult |
| 6 | DCFS/Probation | <p>Are There Any Barriers to Aging Out? NO</p> <p>a. CSW conducts the 90-Day Transition conference that helps Youth take the necessary steps towards successful independent living. The transition plan focuses on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Education Employment Housing Mentoring & Continuing Support Services Family and Other Permanent Connections Health Insurance <p>b. DPO conducts the MDT Meeting (phase 3 of 4) 90 days prior to the anticipated date of discharge to determine what is needed prior to release to ensure a smooth transition back to the community.</p> <p>c. CSW/DPO discusses CalWorks & CalFresh benefits. Youth are given hard copy applications and are asked to go to their local DPSS benefits.</p> |
| 7 | DCFS/Probation | <p>a. CSW/DPO conducts a monthly follow-up to track the Youth's transition/aftercare plan progress. The CSW/DPO focuses on preparing the Youth for self-sufficiency and facilitates connections to resources during the 90 days. The Youth is also introduced to the ILP Transitional Coordinator who will serve as their aftercare contact if the Youth chooses to continue receiving support services.</p> |
| 8 | DCFS/Probation | <p>a. DCFS CSW completes Termination of Juvenile Court Jurisdiction.</p> <p>b. DPO conducts the Discharge (phase 4 of 4) and collaborates with the GHC to ensure the plan and goals are met by the Youth</p> <p>c. DPO completes Judicial Review which reports the Youth's progress to the Court</p> |

Attachment A

| | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|--|
| 9 | DCFS/Probation | Does the Court Terminate the Case? YES <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. CSW completes Technical Assistance Action Request to close the case internallyb. DPO forwards the minutes of the court proceeding to Probation's Placement HQ to close the case internally |
| Back To 5 | DCFS/Probation | Does the Court Terminate the Case? NO <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. CSW/DPO addresses the reasons why the Court did not terminate the case. Depending on what is required, the time will vary Please note, the amount of time needed to address the reasons may vary depending on the court's request and the specifics of the case. |
| 10 | DCFS/Probation | <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. CSW completes Exit Outcomes. DPO completes Exit Outcomes <p>*Youth who have emancipated may elect to receive ongoing supportive services such THPP, Transportation, Food, etc.</p> |

DCFS and Probation – Youth Aging Out of the System



Legend

Black – CSW or DPO responsibility
Blue – CSW and DPO responsibility

Updated: 3/24/2012

1. Still in high school; court believes the youth is not ready due to unstable housing, no long-term connection with an adult, no employment, etc.



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

June 29, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning, Director

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

**QUARTERLY UPDATE REGARDING THE DECEMBER 20, 2011 MOTION ON
FOSTER YOUTH FOOD SECURITY PLAN**

On December 20, 2011, based on the recommendation by Fifth District Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich, the Board directed the Chief Executive Officer, Interim Director of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Chief Probation Officer, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

Our January 25, 2012, thirty-day report detailed how department representatives from the CEO, DCFS, DPSS and Probation, along with key community stakeholders, convened a stakeholders committee meeting on January 11, 2012, to begin discussions and a brainstorming session to meet the motion directives introduced by the Fifth District Board Office. The stakeholders' membership included representatives from children's advocates groups (Public Counsel and Alliance for Children's Rights, who are co-leads for the committee); California Grocers Association, California Food Policy Advocates; California Youth Connection (also a co-lead); contracted providers; and the faith community. Additional members have since joined the Committee from such entities as 211 and the Chief Information Office (Services Locator).

The committee has continued to meet monthly, including the February 11, 2012 and May 5, 2012 meetings with the Youth Leadership Council of the California Youth Connection. These meetings were particularly helpful to committee members as current and former foster youth shared with committee members their views on how departments, stakeholders and providers can meet their service and resource needs more timely and effectively. The youth leadership emphatically informed the committee that services and resources needed to be provided to them through existing technology, such as an information line, smart-phone application and texting, and internet applications such as Facebook and live chat. At the May 5, 2011 meeting, the youth shared with 211 representatives how their information formats could be reformatted and enhanced to provide more effective information, such as frequently asked questions (FAQs) sections, on available departmental and community services, and supports for transition age youth.

In consideration of this input, the committee is currently working on the following strategies to ensure that foster youth can more easily access all services and resources to support all self-sufficiency domains, including food, housing, employment and mental health services:

- Commitments from 211 and CIO/Services Locator to collaborate to enhance and revamp their respective information systems so that service and resources (including food) specifically targeting foster youth can be more directly and quickly accessed by them;
- Commitments from 211 and CIO/Services Locator to enhance the formats of their information websites to include relevant and updated FAQ sections, which can assist youth on how to more easily access their needs through the websites and provide needed information (for example, specific food nutrition information);
- Commitments from 211 and LACounty.gov to explore the development of a smart-phone application where these services and resources can be quickly accessed by foster youth;
- Any needed service and resource guides for providers can come directly from 211's database system;
- Explore the opportunities for subsidized employment opportunities for former foster youth to be hired and trained by 211 to specifically provide live case coordination for foster youth callers;
- Development of a public/media relations campaign to reach out to foster youth when the above enhancements become available;

- Enhance the current evaluation usage mechanisms of both systems to determine the effectiveness (tracking usage numbers and quality of information provided to users) of all referenced strategies;
- Development of strategies through committee members to solicit donations from supermarket chain stores to offset food costs for foster youth who are their customers;
- Consideration of the submittal of a Productivity Investment Fund (PIF) request to provide any needed funding to the information line systems to enhance their improvements; and
- Enhance DCFS's social work best practices models and policies to reflect all self-sufficiency aspects of the Fifth District's recommendations.

Our next quarterly update will be provided to your Board by September 30, 2012. A more detailed plan with targeted completion dates will be provided. We expect to be able to report that many of these strategies will be into their early stages of implementation.

If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:RRS:

HK: lj

c: Chief Executive Officer
Acting Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

September 18, 2012

Board of Supervisors
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First District

MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "W. T. Fujioka", is written over the printed name of the Chief Executive Officer.

REQUEST TO CHANGE THE DUE DATE OF THE QUARTERLY REPORT BACK TO THE BOARD AS INDICATED ON THE DECEMBER 13, 2011 BOARD MOTION - ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, your Board directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), and the Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS), to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. This plan should be developed with input from representatives of the affected foster youth community and should suggest pathways to improve enrollment in and retention of other critical government-funded programs, including but not limited to Medi-Cal; and report back in writing in 30 days on the plan and to quarterly report back on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

A work group consisting of CEO, DPSS, DCFS, Probation staff and community advocates was convened to develop a plan to ensure timely and successful application to CalFresh and other programs, identify pathways to improved enrollment and retention, and develop a standard report on the County's improved rates of enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

On June 25, 2012, we filed our response which included the following: an analysis of the total number of foster youth who are currently receiving CalFresh and other services; documentation of the youth aging-out process for both DCFS and Probation; identification of major challenges; recommendations to ensure that complete and timely

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Each Supervisor
September 18, 2012
Page 2

CalFresh applications are successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth; and, a project timeline.

DCFS, Probation, and DPSS have recently implemented a data matching process which identifies the number of foster youth who have aged out and who have applied for CalFresh and other services. The new data matching process will allow the reporting of complete and accurate information on the State's quarterly SOC 405E. The next SOC 405E report is due mid-October of 2012.

The first quarterly report on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging out foster youth into CalFresh and other services is due to the Board on September 28, 2012. In an effort to align the due dates of the Board's quarterly report back and the State's SOC 405E, we are requesting to change the due date from September 28, 2012 to October 31, 2012, and quarterly thereafter.

If you have any questions, or require additional information, please contact Antonia Jimenez at (213) 974-7365, or via e-mail at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:BC:AJ
DS:MM:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Public Social Services
Children and Family Services
Probation

CalFresh Motion Quarterly Report Back Extension Request-09-18-12.bm



PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
(213) 351-5602

October 31, 2012

To: Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
Second District
ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
DON KNABE
Fourth District
MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

From: Philip L. Browning, Director

**QUARTERLY UPDATE REGARDING THE DECEMBER 20, 2011 MOTION ON
FOSTER YOUTH FOOD SECURITY PLAN**

On December 20, 2011, based on the recommendation by Fifth District Supervisor Michael Antonovich, the Board directed the Chief Executive Officer, then Interim Director of Children and Family Services (DCFS) and the Chief Probation Officer, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

Our last update indicated specific plans to meet the December 20, 2011 Board motion. The following are updates to the plans and provide target dates, where they are known.

- The Food Security Committee continues to work with 211 and Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Services Locate to enhance and revamp their respective information systems so that service and resources (including food), specifically targeting foster youth can be more directly and quickly accessed by them;
- Major progress has been made by 211 as they have met with youth groups, including California Youth Connection (CYC) and developed proposed format enhancements based on youth specific inputs (target date of enhancements: March 2013);

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- One of the format enhancements to the 211 info site will be a specific icon designating free services and supports available to foster youth, including food services and supports like supermarket certificates;
- LACounty.gov is taking the lead on the development of a smart phone application with a commitment to coordinate the developed application with 211's comprehensive information capabilities;
- A food service resource guide for providers has been developed by 211, sorted by Service Planning Area (SPA) and zip codes within each SPA with a DCFS release timeframe of the guides to providers by November 15, 2012;
- 211 and Community Senior Services (CSS) have formalized plans for DCFS and Probation subsidized employment opportunities for as many as 15 foster youth to be hired by 211 to specifically provide live case coordination for foster youth callers to 211 (target date: December 2012);
- The development of a public/media relations campaign to reach out to foster youth when the 211 enhancements become available will be realized early next year based on the actual implementation dates of the enhancements; and
- The Committee continues to work on enhancing the current evaluation usage mechanisms of both systems to determine the effectiveness (tracking usage numbers and quality of information of provided to users) of all referenced strategies.

Our next quarterly update will be provided to your Board by January 31, 2013, where we fully expect that the majority of the work detailed above will be underway and for many, well under way towards completion.

If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:RRS:

HK: lj

c: Chief Executive Officer
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

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<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

January 3, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: William T. Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

Board of Supervisors
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Third District

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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF DECEMBER 13, 2011)

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh and other programs.

It should be noted the amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directing the CEO, the then Interim Director of DCFS, and the Chief Probation Officer to develop a comprehensive resource guide of all food banks, food closets and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth, is being led on a separate track by Harvey Kawasaki, Division Chief, Youth Development Services, DCFS.

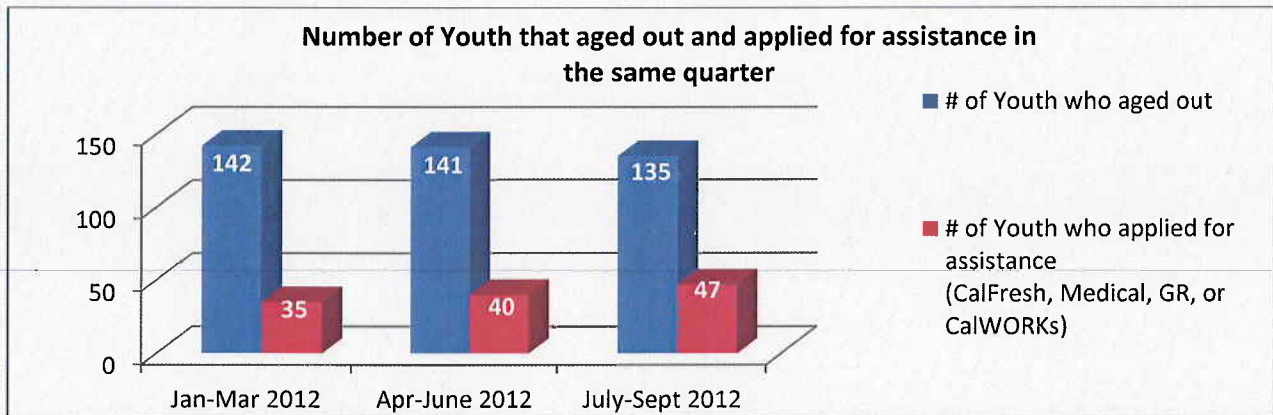
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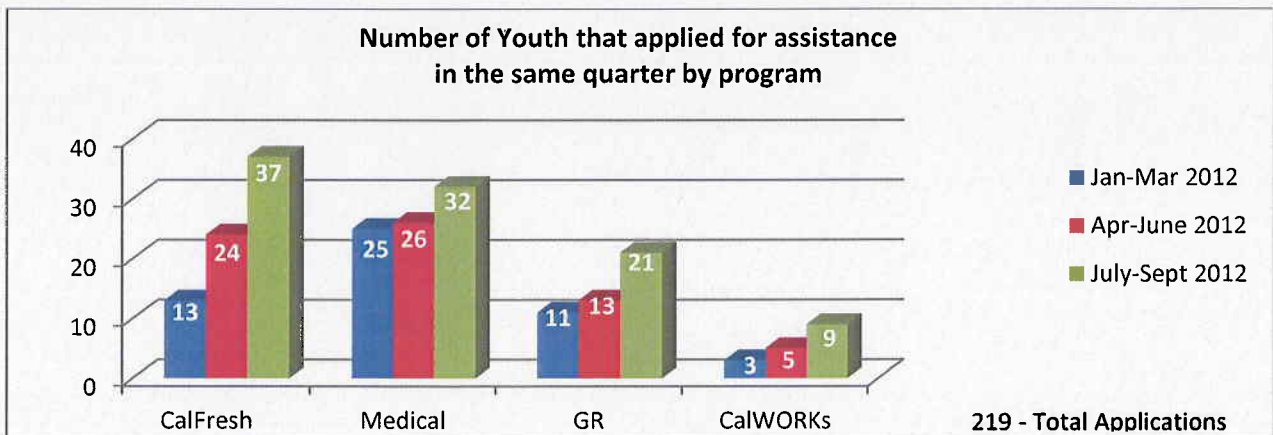
In response to the motion by Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, a Work Group was established consisting of Board Deputies, CEO, DPSS, DCFS, Probation Staff, as well as foster youth community advocates.

The initial response to the Board dated June 25, 2012, reported 402 youth who aged out from July 2011 to September 2011. It should be noted the 402 reflected the total number of closed cases which included youth who have aged out, as well as youth who were reunited with their families. The current data has been revised to only reflect the number of youth who have aged out.

Based on the recommendation by the Work Group, a pilot program between DCFS, DPSS, and Probation was implemented on August 1, 2012. The goal of the pilot program is to ensure that aging-out youth apply for CalFresh and other programs and, if eligible, receive services. The following graphs and chart reflect the number of youth who aged out, applied, and successfully enrolled for assistance by program during the last three quarters.



The early success of the pilot program is evident in the graph below which reflects a substantial increase in the number of youth applying for each program.



The following table reflects the disposition of the applications received from foster youth who aged out from January 2012 through September 2012. It is important to note the reasons for applications being denied or terminated vary depending on the program. In the majority of cases when the CalFresh application was denied or terminated, the youth did not meet the household requirement or missed their intake interview.

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Terminated | % | Pending | % | Total |
|----------|----------|-----|--------|-----|------------|-----|---------|----|-------|
| CalFresh | 43 | 58% | 20 | 27% | 8 | 11% | 3 | 4% | 74 |
| MediCal | 67 | 81% | 9 | 11% | 5 | 6% | 2 | 2% | 83 |
| GR | 10 | 22% | 21 | 47% | 13 | 29% | 1 | 2% | 45 |
| CalWORKs | 13 | 76% | 1 | 6% | 3 | 18% | 0 | 0% | 17 |
| Total | 133 | 61% | 51 | 23% | 29 | 13% | 6 | 3% | 219 |

*These numbers represent duplicate counts as one youth can apply for multiple programs.

The Departments will continue to work collaboratively to educate and assist these youth to ensure they enroll in programs which will help facilitate their successful transition toward independence. We anticipate the number of aging-out youth applying for these programs will continue to increase.

Effective immediately, DCFS will assume the responsibility of the quarterly report back to the Board on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out youth in CalFresh and other programs. The next quarterly report back to the Board will be due on January 31, 2013.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Antonia Jiménez at (213) 974-7365, or via email at ajimenez@ceo.lacounty.gov.

WTF:AJ
DS:MM:ljp

c: Executive Office, Board of Supervisors
Children and Family Services
Probation
Public Social Services
Alliance for Children's Rights
California Food Policy Advocate
California Grocers Association
California Youth Connection
Commission for Children and Families
Hunger Action Los Angeles
Legal Aid Foundation of Los Angeles
Project Impact
Public Counsel
211LA County



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

425 Shatto Place, Los Angeles, California 90020
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PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

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Third District
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MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

February 11, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chair
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

**QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO
AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh.

The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets, and public programs, for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

CalFresh Quarterly Update

For the period of October 2012 through December 2012, 90 foster youth terminated jurisdiction who were eligible to have a CalFresh application filed on their behalf by DCFS. Another 108 youth in the same period of time terminated jurisdiction, but CalFresh applications either could not be filed on their behalf (runaways) or were not needed (such as incarceration,

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returned home to parent, moved out of county/state, joined the military, etc). Of the 90 youth who left DCFS with a need for these supports, 24 CalFresh applications were received by DPSS for a compliance rate of 37.5%. This is a slight improvement over the last quarter, July 2012 through September 2012, where it was reported that 135 youth terminated jurisdiction and 37 CalFresh applications were received by DPSS. This represented a previous compliance rate of 27.4%.

The following table reflects the disposition of all the DPSS applications received from foster youth who aged out from October 2012 through December 2012.

| Programs | Received | Approved | % | Denied | % | Terminated | % | Pending | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| CalFresh | 24 | 14 | 58% | 6 | 25% | 3 | 13% | 1 | 4% | 24 |
| Medical | 27 | 15 | 56% | 3 | 11% | 7 | 26% | 2 | 7% | 27 |
| GR | 17 | 5 | 29% | 7 | 41% | 2 | 12% | 3 | 18% | 17 |
| CalWorks | 3 | 1 | 33% | 1 | 33% | 1 | 33% | 0 | 0% | 3 |
| Total | 71 | 35 | 44% | 17 | 28% | 13 | 21% | 6 | 7% | 71 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS, will be employing the following strategies to enhance its work with foster youth and to ensure they enroll in these programs, which will help to facilitate their successful transition toward independence.

- Expand the DPSS Outreach Project from the 4 pilot offices to all DCFS regional offices, by March 19, 2013. Every DCFS regional office will have a DPSS Outreach staff available once a week to meet with aging out foster youth to inform them of all DPSS programs, assist youth in the completion of applications, and serve as a lead in ensuring their applications get processed upon the youth's termination of jurisdiction from DCFS.
- Explore the automation of the existing CalFresh application (pre-populating information already contained in the CWS/CMS system) to lessen the workload of social workers.
- Maintain completed CalFresh applications centrally within each office in order to readily submit to on-site DPSS Outreach workers once jurisdiction is terminated for each youth.

Antonovich Board Motion Amendment

The following are updates on the progress last reported on October 31, 2012:

- The Los Angeles County Information Line (211) has completed their enhanced web-site format changes based on the input from foster youth and other youth groups, which includes icons for designating free services and supports available to foster youth, including food services and certificates.
- A food service resource guide on compact disk (CD) has been completed by 211 (sorted by Service Planning Area and zip codes) and will be distributed by DCFS by mid-February.
- Subsidized employment opportunities for foster youth working at 211 are being finalized with all parties involved, for a target number of 12 youth to be trained and hired by 211 by March 2013.

- The target date for the 211 web-site enhancements, projected for a March 2013 completion, will need to be changed, as the funding mechanism from DCFS is still in progress for finalization (sole sourcing).

The next quarterly update will be provided to the Board by April 30, 2013 for the quarterly CalFresh update reflecting DCFS' progress for January 2013 through March 2013 and for updates on the Antonovich amendment.

If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:EM:
HK:lj

- c. Chief Executive Officer
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

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Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

June 11, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

**QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO
AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh.

The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets, and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

CalFresh Quarterly Update

For the period of January 2013 through March 2013, 183 foster youth terminated jurisdiction who were eligible to have a CalFresh application filed on their behalf by DCFS. During this period, another 40 youth terminated jurisdiction but, CalFresh applications either could not be

filed on their behalf (runaways) or were not needed (due to factors such as incarceration, returned home to parent, adoption finalized and placement in a medical facility). Of the 183 youth who exited DCFS with a need for these supports, 43 CalFresh applications were received by DPSS, for a compliance rate of 37%. The compliance rate during this reporting period is almost equal to the 37.5% compliance rate reported during the last quarter for the period of October 2012 through December 2012.

The following table reflects the disposition of all DPSS applications received from foster youth who aged out from January 2013 through March 2013.

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| CalWorks | 3 | 50% | 1 | 17% | 1 | 17% | 1 | 17% | 6 |
| CalFresh | 24 | 56% | 10 | 23% | 8 | 19% | 1 | 2% | 43 |
| GR | 13 | 45% | 11 | 38% | 3 | 10% | 2 | 7% | 29 |
| Medi-Cal | 30 | 81% | 3 | 8% | 2 | 5% | 2 | 5% | 37 |
| Total | 70 | 61% | 25 | 22% | 14 | 11% | 6 | 5% | 115 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS, has employed the following strategies during this quarter to reduce food insecurity among foster youth exiting DCFS through increasing compliance with the CalFresh application requirement.

- Expanded of the DPSS Outreach Project – On March 18, 2013, the DPSS Outreach Project was expanded from the four original pilot offices, South County, Vermont Corridor, Glendora and Wateridge, to all but one of the 18 DCFS regional offices. The DCFS West Los Angeles office, which does not currently have a designated DPSS Outreach staff, is projected to have an assigned outreach worker by June 2013, when staffing resources become available. If a youth cannot meet with the DPSS Outreach worker, the responsibility for assisting the youth with the CalFresh application remains with the youth's case carrying DCFS social worker. As part of the Project expansion, a DPSS Outreach staff will be outstationed once a week in each DCFS regional office to meet with aging out foster youth to inform them of all DPSS programs for which they are eligible, assist youth in the completion of CalFresh applications, and serve as a lead in ensuring their timely processing of CalFresh applications upon the youth's termination of jurisdiction from DCFS.
- Centralized CalFresh applications – Completed CalFresh applications are now maintained in a centralized location within each DCFS regional office to expedite submission to outstationed DPSS staff at the time of termination of DCFS' jurisdiction.
- Automated CalFresh Tracking System – A CalFresh tracking system has been developed for identification of youth who have terminated court jurisdiction and require a completed CalFresh application. Data entry of CalFresh status and tracking capabilities are additional components of the system. DCFS also requires monthly CalFresh compliance reports from all regional offices.
- Development of the capability to populate of the CalFresh application remains under exploration.

Antonovich Board Motion Amendment

The following are updates on the progress last reported to the Board on February 11, 2013.

- During this reporting period, 211-Los Angeles County Information Line (211) completed their enhanced web-site format changes based on input received from foster youth and other youth groups. The enhancements include the use of icons for designating free services and supports available to foster youth, including food services and certificates.
- The previously reported March 2013 projected implementation date for 211's enhanced web-site is being moved to August 2013. The delay in implementation of the enhanced website is attributable to a protracted sole source contracting process that involved additional steps for final approval, such as a review by the LA County's Chief Information Office (CIO) as the request involved enhancements to an existing information and data based system. The sole source funding process for DCFS ILP funding of \$50,000 for implementation of 211's enhanced web-site for transition age youth was completed on April 22, 2013.
- During this reporting period, a food service resource guide compact disc (CD), sorted by Service Planning Area and zip code, was completed by 211 and distributed to DCFS and Probation Independent Living Program (ILP) staff, DCFS ILP providers and community partners who provide information services to the transition age youth population. A total of 100 CDs were distributed by April 15, 2013. Additional CDs are available from 211 by request. Feedback received from California Youth Connection, a youth led advocacy organization, indicated that although direct provision of these resource guides to foster youth is not especially helpful, these guides are essential for Departmental staff and providers to have.
- Since the last reporting period, challenges with efforts to place current and former foster youth in subsidized employment opportunities with 211 were experienced. No youth were job placed during this period. DCFS' foster youth subsidized employment program, funded by ILP monies, is currently administered through Community Senior Services (CSS). An initial challenge was ensuring that both CSS and 211 fully understood the opportunity and the funding mechanism for subsidized employment opportunities for foster youth at 211. A second challenge involved the actual recruitment of foster youth for the 211 opportunities. Only one youth expressed an interest but never followed through. Initial recruitment efforts were through the DCFS ILP application process and focused on job placement in 12 full-time slots. DCFS and 211 will be working directly with CSS to realize a more effective recruitment strategy, including the consideration of part-time employment opportunities. The projected date for job placement in all available slots is August 2013.

The next quarterly update will be provided to the Board by July 31, 2013 for a CalFresh update reporting DCFS' progress for the period of April 1, 2013, through June 30, 2013, and for updates on the Antonovich amendment.

Each Supervisor
June 11, 2013
Page 4

If you have any questions please call me, or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

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c: Chief Executive Officer
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Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



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Third District

DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

August 30, 2013

To: Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Don Knabe
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

**QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO
AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh.

The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with faith-based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets, and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

CalFresh Quarterly Update

For the period of April 2013 through June 2013, 177 foster youth terminated jurisdiction; however, only 73 were eligible to have a CalFresh application filed on their behalf by DCFS. The remaining 104 youth terminated jurisdiction, but CalFresh applications either could not be

filed on their behalf (runaways), or were not needed (due to factors such as incarceration, returned home to parent, moved out of Los Angeles County jurisdiction or were receiving DPSS benefits before they terminated jurisdiction). Of the 73 youth who exited DCFS with a need for these supports, DPSS reported 29 CalFresh applications were processed for a compliance rate of 39.7%. This is an increase from the 37% compliance rate reported during the previous quarter for the period of April 1, 2013 through June 30, 2013.

The following table reflects the disposition of all DPSS applications processed for foster youth who aged out from April 2013 through June 2013. Note: This chart includes seven (7) former foster youth who were runaways at the time of DCFS case termination and applied for CalFresh benefits at local DPSS offices.

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| CalWorks | 6 | 50% | 4 | 33% | 2 | 17% | 0 | 0% | 12 |
| CalFresh | 24 | 67% | 8 | 22% | 3 | 8% | 1 | 3% | 36 |
| GR | 11 | 48% | 9 | 39% | 2 | 9% | 1 | 4% | 23 |
| Medi-Cal | 36 | 86% | 3 | 7% | 1 | 2% | 2 | 5% | 42 |
| Total | 77 | 63% | 24 | 25% | 8 | 9% | 4 | 3% | 113 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS, continued to employ the following strategies during this quarter to reduce food insecurity among foster youth exiting DCFS through increasing compliance with the CalFresh application requirement.

- **Expansion of the DPSS Outreach Project (the Project)** - As of July 2013, the Project was fully implemented, with a DPSS Outreach Worker assigned to all 18 DCFS regional offices. The Project ensures that a DPSS Outreach Worker is outstationed once a week in each DCFS regional office. Outreach Worker duties include meeting with aging out foster youth to inform them of all DPSS programs for which they are eligible; assisting youth in the completion of CalFresh applications; and serving as a lead in ensuring timely processing of CalFresh applications upon the youth's termination from DCFS jurisdiction. If a youth cannot meet with the DPSS Outreach Worker, the responsibility for assisting the youth with the CalFresh application continues to remain with the youth's case carrying DCFS social worker.
- **Centralized CalFresh applications** – Completed CalFresh applications are maintained in a centralized location within each DCFS regional office to expedite submission to outstationed DPSS staff at the time of termination of DCFS' jurisdiction.
- **Automated CalFresh Tracking System** – The internal DCFS CalFresh tracking system, developed for identification of youth who have terminated court jurisdiction and who require a completed CalFresh application, continues to be effective in tracking CalFresh compliance by DCFS staff. DCFS also continues to require monthly CalFresh compliance reports from all regional offices to ensure an ongoing focus for this critical need for exiting foster youth.

- **Automated CalFresh applications** - As of August 19, 2013, the CalFresh application has been automated within the Child Welfare Services/Case Management System, allowing staff to download the document with pre-populated youth information, including name, address, telephone number, and other relevant personal information needed for processing. This capability is projected to increase the ease with which DCFS staff can complete the application, thereby, increasing compliance.

Supervisor Antonovich Board Motion Amendment

The following are Supervisor Antonovich Board motion amendment updates.

- Los Angeles County Information Line (211) - 211 has revised the projected completion date of their enhanced web-site format changes based on input received from foster youth and other youth groups to October 30, 2013. During the reporting quarter, 211 finalized the vendor selection process. 3Di Systems, designer of websites for the City of Los Angeles' 311 project and the Department of Water and Power was selected. The vendor is in receipt of the web page framework for development, as well as the directory builder designed to make it easier for youth to access their self-sufficiency needs, including food resources.
- Through a DCFS subsidized employment collaboration with DPSS and their contractor, Southbay Workforce Investment Board, two foster youth were recruited and started employment with 211 on August 5, 2013. They are currently being trained as 211 county operators for the 211 system, and will also be utilized to maintain updates to the youth section of the enhanced website, currently under development. It is hoped that this subsidized employment opportunity for these two youth will result in unsubsidized permanent positions at 211.

The next quarterly update will be provided to the Board by November 30, 2013, for a CalFresh update reporting DCFS' progress for the period of July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 and for updates on the Antonovich amendment.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:EM
HK:nn

c: Chief Executive Officer
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



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Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
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DON KNABE
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH
Fifth District

May 13, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "P. Browning", is written over the printed name and title of Philip L. Browning.

**QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO
AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh.

The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with Faith-Based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets, and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

CalFresh Update For Two Quarters (July 1, 2013 through September 30, 2013 and October 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013)

For the period of July 2013 through September 2013, 211 foster youth terminated jurisdiction; however, only 60 were eligible to have a CalFresh application filed on their behalf by DCFS.

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The remaining 151 youth terminated jurisdiction, but CalFresh applications either could not be filed on their behalf (runaways), or were not needed (due to factors such as incarceration, returned home to parent, moved out of Los Angeles County jurisdiction or were receiving DPSS benefits before they terminated jurisdiction). DPSS received 51 applications from this group across all available support programs, as shown in Table One below. CalFresh applications were 41% of the total applications received by DPSS by this group.

For the period of October 1, 2013 through December 2013, 155 foster youth terminated jurisdiction; while only 37 were eligible to have a CalFresh application filed on their behalf by DCFS. The remaining 118 youth terminated jurisdiction, but for the same reasons detailed above, CalFresh applications could not be filed on their behalf. DPSS received 21 applications from this eligible group. CalFresh applications represented 38% of the total number of applications received by DPSS as submitted by eligible youth during this period.

Table One – Benefits Applied for By Youth

| Quarter | CalFresh | % | Medical | % | General Relief | % | CalWorks | % | Total |
|----------------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------------|------------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| Jul 2013 – Sept 2013 | 21 | 41% | 15 | 29% | 13 | 26% | 2 | 4% | 51 |
| Oct 2013 – Dec 2013 | 8 | 38% | 8 | 38% | 4 | 19% | 1 | 5% | 21 |
| Total | 29 | 40% | 23 | 32% | 17 | 24% | 3 | 4% | 72 |

The CalFresh application submittal rate of 40% is only a marginal increase from the previous 39% compliance rate last reported to the Board for the period of March 2013 through June 2013. As a result, several new strategies are being employed as detailed later in this update.

The following tables reflect the disposition of all DPSS applications processed for all foster youth who aged out in the last two reporting out quarters:

Table Two - July 2013 through September 2013 Benefit Filings

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|----------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|
| CalWorks | 3 | 75% | 1 | 25% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 4 |
| CalFresh | 31 | 65% | 15 | 31% | 0 | 0% | 2 | 4% | 48 |
| GR | 13 | 41% | 15 | 47% | 0 | 0% | 4 | 12% | 32 |
| Medi-Cal | 37 | 92% | 3 | 8% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 40 |
| Total | 84 | 68% | 34 | 27% | 0 | 0% | 6 | 5% | 124 |

Table Three - October 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013 Benefit Filings:

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|-----------|
| CalWorks | 2 | 67% | 0 | 0% | 1 | 33% | 0 | 0% | 3 |
| CalFresh | 16 | 47% | 12 | 35% | 5 | 15% | 1 | 3% | 34 |
| GR | 2 | 11% | 12 | 67% | 3 | 17% | 1 | 5% | 18 |
| Medi-Cal | 16 | 70% | 0 | 0% | 7 | 30% | 0 | 0% | 23 |
| Total | 36 | 46% | 24 | 31% | 16 | 20% | 2 | 3% | 78 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS, continued to employ the following strategies during this quarter to reduce food insecurity among foster youth exiting DCFS through increasing compliance with the CalFresh application requirement.

- **Update of DPSS Outreach Project (the Project)** – The Project continues to be fully implemented, with a DPSS Outreach Worker assigned to all 18 DCFS regional offices. The DCFS and DPSS Project management staff continue to meet monthly to review the process steps involving both DCFS and DPSS staff to make necessary adjustments based on the monthly tracking reports of DCFS regional offices and the tracking reports maintained by out stationed DPSS Outreach workers.
- **Centralized CalFresh applications** – Completed CalFresh applications continue to be maintained in a centralized location within each DCFS regional office to expedite submission to out stationed DPSS staff at the time of termination of DCFS' jurisdiction.
- **Automated CalFresh Tracking System** – The internal DCFS CalFresh tracking system, developed for identification of youth who have terminated court jurisdiction and who require a completed CalFresh application, continues to be utilized in tracking CalFresh compliance by DCFS staff. DCFS also continues to require monthly CalFresh compliance reports from all regional offices to ensure an ongoing focus for this critical need for exiting foster youth.
- **Incentives for Youth Meeting with DPSS Outreach Project Staff** – The biggest challenge for completing CalFresh applications for exiting foster youth is having them met with the DPSS Outreach Worker in DCFS regional offices. A \$50.00 monetary incentive using departmental Chafee funds was under discussion which would reward eligible youth who meet with the DPSS Outreach Worker and complete a CalFresh application as part of their exiting county jurisdiction. This strategy has been fully implemented, beginning February 1, 2014.
- **Benefits Enrollment Project at Edelman Children's Court** – Both DCFS and DPSS are planning to implement, as a six-month pilot project, a DPSS benefits enrollment unit at Edelman Children's Court. The unit, comprised of two DPSS Outreach Workers, will test the feasibility of expediting health care benefits for DCFS families who attend their court hearings at Court. In addition, to families, the unit will be available to assist all transition age youth who attend their jurisdiction termination hearing to complete CalFresh applications. The project is targeted to begin by the end of May 2014.

Supervisor Antonovich Board Motion Amendment

The following are Supervisor Antonovich Board motion amendment updates.

- Los Angeles County Information Line (211) - 211 had revised the projected completion date of their enhanced web-site format changes based on input received from foster youth and other youth groups to November 30, 2013. It was completed on schedule with the new target date. An extended period of time was needed for the selected developer, 3DI Systems, to begin the work specified in the scope of work, including addressing bugs in the directory builder function that will make the website easier for youth to access their needed resources. These design bugs have been resolved for the most part. 211 met with California Youth Connection in January 2014 for its foster youth leadership to review the completed work. The response to the review by CYC's

youth leadership was positive, and the website is expected to formally launch in April 2014.

The next quarterly update will be provided to the Board by May 19, 2014, for a CalFresh update reporting DCFS' progress for the period of January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014 and for a final update on the Antonovich amendment.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:EM
HK:nn

c: Chief Executive Officer
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



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Fifth District

May 30, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

**QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR YOUTH WHO
AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

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The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with Faith-Based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

Quarterly Update for January 1, 2014 through March 31, 2014

For the period of January 2014 through March 2014, 219 foster youth terminated jurisdiction; however, only 92 were eligible to have CalFresh applications filed on their behalf by DCFS. The remaining 127 youth terminated jurisdiction, but at the time of jurisdiction termination,

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CalFresh applications either could not be filed on their behalf (runaways), or were not needed due to factors such as, incarceration, returned home to parent, moved out of Los Angeles County jurisdiction, or were receiving DPSS benefits before they terminated jurisdiction.

DPSS received 21 applications from the first group across all available support programs, as shown in Table One below. CalFresh applications were 31% of the total applications received by DPSS by this group.

Table One – Benefits Applied for By Youth

| Quarter | CalFresh | % | Medical | % | General Relief | % | CalWorks | % | Total |
|---------------------|----------|-----|---------|-----|----------------|-----|----------|----|-------|
| Jan 2014 – Mar 2014 | 21 | 31% | 22 | 32% | 21 | 31% | 4 | 6% | 68 |

The CalFresh application submittal rate of 31% is a decrease from the previous 40% compliance rate last reported to the Board for the period of July 2013 through December 2013. Several new strategies discussed below had only begun during the latter part of this reporting period or had implementation target dates into the next reporting period (April 2014 through June 2014).

Table Two reflects the disposition of all DPSS benefit applications processed for all foster youth who exited out of DCFS jurisdiction:

Table Two – January 2014 through March 2014 Benefit Filings

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|----------|----------|-----|--------|-----|---------|-----|------------|----|-------|
| CalWorks | 5 | 63% | 3 | 37% | 0 | 0% | 0 | 0% | 8 |
| CalFresh | 27 | 44% | 28 | 46% | 6 | 10% | 0 | 0% | 61 |
| GR | 7 | 18% | 23 | 59% | 7 | 18% | 2 | 5% | 39 |
| Medi-Cal | 34 | 60% | 7 | 12% | 16 | 28% | 0 | 0% | 57 |
| Total | 73 | 44% | 61 | 37% | 29 | 18% | 2 | 1% | 165 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS, continued to employ the following strategies during this quarter to reduce food insecurity among foster youth exiting DCFS through increasing compliance with the CalFresh application requirement.

- **Update of DPSS Outreach Project (the Project)** – The Project continues to be fully implemented, with a DPSS Outreach Worker assigned to all 18 DCFS regional offices. The DCFS and DPSS Project management staff continue to meet ongoing to review the process steps involving both DCFS and DPSS staff to make necessary adjustments based on the monthly tracking reports of DCFS regional offices and the tracking reports maintained by out stationed DPSS Outreach workers.
- **Centralized CalFresh applications** – Completed CalFresh applications continue to be maintained in a centralized location within each DCFS regional office to expedite submission to out stationed DPSS staff at the time of termination of DCFS' jurisdiction.

- **Automated CalFresh Tracking System** – The internal DCFS CalFresh tracking system, developed for identification of youth who have terminated court jurisdiction and who require a completed CalFresh application, continues to be utilized in tracking CalFresh compliance by DCFS staff. DCFS also continues to require monthly CalFresh compliance reports from all regional offices to ensure an ongoing focus for this critical need for exiting foster youth.
- **Incentives for Youth Meeting with DPSS Outreach Project Staff** – The biggest challenge for completing CalFresh applications for exiting foster youth is having them meet with the DPSS Outreach Worker in DCFS regional offices. A \$50.00 monetary incentive using departmental Chafee funds was under discussion which would reward eligible youth who meet with the DPSS Outreach Worker and complete a CalFresh application as part of their exiting county jurisdiction. This strategy was implemented in February 2014. As this reporting period covers only through March 2014, it is too early to determine the impact of this strategy.
- **Benefits Enrollment Project at Edelman Children's Court** – Both DCFS and DPSS have collaborated and implemented as a six-month pilot project, a DPSS Benefits Health Care Enrollment Unit housed at Edelman Children's Court. The unit was implemented on April 9, 2014, and provides any DCFS family in need of health care coverage and supportive services (like substance abuse service coverage) from the courtrooms covering the Service Planning Area 6 offices (Vermont Corridor, Compton and Wateridge). Comprised of two full-time DPSS Outreach Workers, the unit's served population will expand in June 2014, to include exiting foster youth who may be in need of CalFresh benefits. The youth who attend their jurisdiction termination court hearing will be directed to the Unit for CalFresh application completion and submittal for any needed benefits.

Supervisor Antonovich Board Motion Amendment

The following are Supervisor Antonovich Board motion amendment updates.

- **Los Angeles County Information Line (211)** – 211's "Youth Services" website portal was actively available beginning in April 2014 based on positive reviews by key stakeholder groups such as California Youth Connection and local child advocate groups, including the Alliance for Children's Rights and Public Counsel. DCFS and 211 will collaboratively launch a comprehensive media campaign to advertise the 211 "Youth Services" portal through information materials, including flyers and information cards for youth. These materials will be distributed to, including but not limited to, all human service county departments including: Mental Health, Public Health, Community and Senior Services and Public Social Services, contracted providers who service youth and our caregiver population including foster homes, group homes, Kinship and Adoptions.

Each Supervisor
May 30, 2014
Page 4

The next quarterly update will be provided to the Board by August 29, 2014 for a CalFresh update reporting DCFS' progress for the period of April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014 and for a final update on the Antonovich amendment.

If you have any questions, please call me or your staff may contact Aldo Marin, Board Relations Manager, at (213) 351-5530.

PLB:EM
HK:hk

c: Chief Executive Officer
Director, Department of Public Social Services
Chief Probation Officer
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



**County of Los Angeles
DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES**

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PHILIP L. BROWNING
Director

FESIA A. DAVENPORT
Chief Deputy Director

August 29, 2014

To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
Supervisor Gloria Molina
Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: Philip L. Browning
Director

Board of Supervisors
GLORIA MOLINA
First District
MARK RIDLEY-THOMAS
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ZEV YAROSLAVSKY
Third District
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Fifth District

**FINAL QUARTERLY UPDATE - RESPONSE TO ENSURING FOOD SECURITY FOR
YOUTH WHO AGE OUT OF FOSTER CARE BOARD MOTION (ITEM NO. 3, AGENDA OF
DECEMBER 13, 2011)**

On December 13, 2011, by motion of Supervisor Ridley-Thomas, with an amendment by Supervisor Antonovich, the Board of Supervisors directed the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), the then Interim Directors of the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), and the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) to develop and implement a plan to ensure complete CalFresh applications are timely and successfully submitted on behalf of foster youth, ages 18-21, when dependency is terminated. Also, the CEO, DPSS, and DCFS are to report back quarterly on the County's improved rates of successfully enrolling aging-out foster youth into CalFresh.

The amendment by Supervisor Antonovich directed the Chief Executive Officer, the then Interim Directors of DCFS and Probation Department, in consultation with Faith-Based community partners, County-contracted providers, youth and foundations, to: (1) develop a comprehensive resource guide for all food banks, food closets and public programs for provision to all exiting youth; (2) solicit donations of food store gift cards from the community and community foundations for distribution to youth in need; (3) enhance the availability of nutritional food information and programs on budgeting, shopping, cost comparison and meal planning to aging-out youth; and (4) develop an outcomes evaluation mechanism by which to measure the long-term impacts of each type of food security assistance resource upon the futures of Los Angeles County aging-out youth.

Quarterly Update for April 1, 2014 through June 30, 2014

For the period of April 1, 2014 through June 20, 2014, 230 foster youth terminated jurisdiction; however, only 27 were eligible to have CalFresh applications filed on their behalf by DCFS.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective and Caring Service"

The remaining 203 youth terminated jurisdiction; but at the time of jurisdiction termination, CalFresh applications either could not be filed on their behalf (runaways), or were not needed due to factors such as, incarceration, returned home to parent, moved out of Los Angeles County jurisdiction, or were receiving DPSS benefits before they terminated jurisdiction.

DPSS received 26 applications from the first group across all available support programs, as shown in Table One below. CalFresh applications were 70% of the total applications received by DPSS by this group. As of January 1, 2014, exiting foster youth are no longer required to re-apply for Medi-Cal. Therefore, this data was not included in the Tables.

Table One – Benefits Applied for By Youth

| Quarter | CalFresh | % | General Relief | % | CalWorks | % | Total |
|---------------------|----------|-----|----------------|-----|----------|----|-------|
| Apr 2014 – Jun 2014 | 26 | 70% | 10 | 27% | 1 | 3% | 37 |

The CalFresh application submittal rate of 70% is a marked increase from the previous 31% benefit application rate last reported to the Board for the period of January 2014 through March 2014. Moreover, a closer analysis completed for this quarter by the DCFS/DPSS CalFresh Project Committee, shows that 26 out of the 27 eligible youth had a CalFresh submitted to DPSS on their behalf either through the youth's DCFS social worker, or through the out-stationed DPSS Outreach Workers housed in every DCFS line regional office. This is a 96% compliance rate.

Table Two reflects the disposition of all DPSS benefit applications processed for all foster youth who exited out of DCFS jurisdiction:

Table Two – April 2014 through June 2014 Benefit Filings

| Programs | Approved | % | Denied | % | Pending | % | Terminated | % | Total |
|--------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|-----------|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| CalWorks | 6 | 67% | 1 | 11% | 1 | 11% | 1 | 11% | 9 |
| CalFresh | 40 | 54% | 24 | 32% | 8 | 11% | 2 | 3% | 74 |
| GR | 9 | 24% | 22 | 58% | 7 | 18% | 0 | 0% | 38 |
| Total | 55 | 45% | 47 | 39% | 16 | 13% | 3 | 3% | 121 |

The Department, in partnership with DPSS continued to employ the following strategies, which were successful in achieving the high rate of success during this quarter. DPSS Outreach Workers remain out-stationed in every DCFS regional office to assist youth in need of CalFresh benefits and recently expanded its scope to assist in enrolling DCFS families in need of Medi-Cal and CalFresh benefits as well. The DPSS Outreach Worker remains as the centralized individual in every DCFS regional office where completed CalFresh applications by DCFS workers with their youth can be submitted for expedited processing by the Outreach Worker.

The internal DCFS CalFresh tracking system remains a key data tracking mechanism for DCFS offices to identify the termination of youth and monitoring the compliance of DCFS staff, to provide eligible youth assistance in applying for CalFresh benefits. The data was very valuable in the monthly DCFS/DPSS CalFresh Project Committee meetings in reconciling

CalFresh application compliance with both Departments, with DPSS utilizing information from LEADER to verify CalFresh applications receipt from DCFS and to determine application status: approved, denied, terminated and pending.

Two additional strategies were planned for this quarter. DCFS fully implemented an incentive bonus of \$50 using Independent Living Program Chafee funds for any exiting foster youth who met with a DPSS Outreach Worker and completed a CalFresh application. This strategy had minimal impact with very few youth requesting the incentive bonus. The second strategy, having the Benefits Enrollment Unit located at Edelman Children's Court, offer enrollment to foster youth attending their court jurisdiction termination hearing, could not be executed as planned during the quarter due to logistical issues involving non-DCFS staff having access to youth while they are in Shelter Care at Court. Instead, DCFS assigned a full-time Community Worker in Shelter Care in May 2014. The Community Worker's main responsibility is to meet individually with all youth in Shelter Care on a daily basis and provide every youth with independent living services and resources available to them, including DPSS benefit supports.

Supervisor Antonovich's Board Motion Amendment

The following are Supervisor Antonovich's Board motion amendment final updates, as the implementation plans of the Los Angeles County Information Line (211)'s created "Youth Services Portal" website were completed during the quarter.

The website has been operational since the beginning of this quarter (April 2014). During the quarter, DCFS and 211 developed specific promotional materials to advertise the "Youth Services Portal" website, consisting of 10,000 flyers and 25,000 information cards for youth to carry in their wallets or purses.

By the end of June 2014, the following website public relations strategies were achieved. The website flyers were distributed to all County human services Departments, including DPSS, Mental Health, Public Health and Community and Senior Services. All DCFS and Probation staff were made aware of the website for workers' own use when needing to locate services and supports for transition age youth, including all community food security resources. DCFS contract providers and community partners who service youth and our caregiver populations (foster homes, groups, Kinship and Adoptions), were provided information about the portal website. Finally, every DCFS foster youth 16 years of age and above (5,000 in total) was mailed the 211 "Youth Services Portal" flyer. The information cards are available to youth in every DCFS regional office and all community partners serving youth.

Based on the above accomplishments, this will be the final Food Security Motion quarterly report provided to the Board Offices by DCFS. The efforts between DCFS and DPSS and the refinement work necessary to implement effective strategies, demonstrate a strong collaborative effort between both Departments to ensure and enhance the self-sufficiency supports and services available to all exiting foster youth.

Each Supervisor
August 29, 2014
Page 4

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